



# Southwest Public Lands People



## Employee News of the San Juan National Forest & San Juan Field Office-BLM *Winter 2001-2002*

### EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION HELPS OUT WITH HEART

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - The Durango Federal Employees Association, formed in 1983 to bring federal workers together, is going strong. The Association collects yearly dues from its members to fund nonprofit activities.

In addition to the always popular Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, the fall chili cookoff membership drive was also a big success.

"A fun time was had by all, and I know there wasn't any chili left. This office sure has some good cooks and we do appreciate their willingness to help us out," says Association Vice President Nona Dale.

Dues also help stock the daily kitchen needs in the San Juan Public Lands Center lunchroom. And the Association takes care of needs of the heart as well. When employees or their family members are ill, the Association is there to help. When someone leaves, recognition is given.

"It's my hope that, through the Association, we can assist each other by building morale, sending cheer when one of us is ill, and extending sympathy in the event of a family member's death," says Association Treasurer Laura Stransky.

The Association also reaches out to help the community. This fall, it collected donations for victims of the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedy, conducted canned food drives, and participated in Project Merry Christmas.

"We hope to assist Durango in various charitable ways to show that we as federal workers are a caring part of this community," Laura says.

Charitable gifts given in the past include a benefit for the Steve Lemus family whose home burned; funeral arrangements and a luncheon for Rusty Spining, a long-term SCSEP employee; "Shop with a Cop" donations to help improve relations between kids and cops; donations of toiletries and financial assistance to the Durango and Cortez safehouses; City Market gift certificates for janitorial staff; United Way donations; and donations to the BLM Firefighters Fund.

*(B.J. Boucher is the past Director of the San Juan Mountains Association who provides indispensable help to the Public Affairs Office.)*



Employees gobble, gobble, gobble at last Thanksgiving Day's feast hosted by the Employees Association.

### *Results of the Reader Survey*

By Ann Bond

DURANGO - We asked you how you liked the first version of our Electronic-Only Employee Newsletter published this fall, and you told us (see table below).

Our decision is to give it to you both ways - electronic and hard copy! It's easy to access a color version with the click of your mouse on the email sent to you this month from Webmaster Tom Harris.

But for those of you who prefer to touch and feel it (and not have to log on to read it), we've printed a limited amount of black-and-white hard copies.

We hope you like what you read!

QUESTIONS	YES	NO
1. Did you read the electronic newsletter?	21	15
2. Did you use the email link to access it?	20	3
3. Was it easy to read?	17	1
4. Did you like it?	18	0
5. Was it helpful?	18	0
6. Do you prefer hard copy?	19	13

## SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS CENTER



### BRANTLINGER'S BACK

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - After 16 years working as a seasonal, Bob Brantlinger is finally a full-time employee. Bob has been with the San Juan NF for 12 of those years, working in recreation, hydrology and fish habitat, putting in many seasons of field-work and data tabulation.

Though he grew up in Pennsylvania and graduated from Penn State, most of Bob's USFS career has been in Colorado. His new position has him working on federal reserved water rights with Hydrologist Kelly Shanahan.

If you've waded in water as much as Bob, you naturally love fishing. "As a hydrologist, I have to stand in the water and watch those fish swim by, rather than casting a fly," he says, "and that's hard!"

But if you want to know his favorite fishing holes, you'll have to secretly follow him while he's out testing stream flows. (Every good fisherman keeps his favorite sites to himself.)

Bob also loves food, particularly good breakfasts. His wife, Barb, helped establish Carvers Restaurant in 1989. The whole family, including their two children, Stephen, 9, and Wynne, 12, love cooking. "I can't even cook an egg without being told how to make it perfect by my nine year old," he says.

### WILSON WAVES HELLO

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - It's always exciting to have old friends return after a jaunt away to another job. Pam Wilson has returned to the San Juan Public Lands Center after two years away on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests.

Her new position is Public Affairs Specialist working with the National Fire Plan and local fire activities.

Pam began her career on the Routt NF in 1979. From there she traveled to the Rio Grande, and then the San Juan NFs. An easterner, she holds a degree in environmental science from the State University of New York, but loves the west, and she particularly loves being back in Durango.

"The San Juan is a very progressive forest," she says. "All the folks who work here are great. The involvement with the community is particularly good."

Pam and husband, Thurman, have purchased a "great little adobe home" southwest of Hesperus. When not at her desk next to Ann Bond, you'll find Pam wandering backcountry roads and hill-sides with her two dogs, Annie, a yellow lab, and Pete, a black shepherd.

They are the Wilson's "children," and while Pam was away on the GMUG, the two dogs traveled back and forth between two homes in order to keep both "parents" happy.



### BARRY SAYS BYE BYE

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - After more than 17 years with the San Juan working in everything from payroll to engineering to budget, Connie Barry will be moving to the Rio Grande NF as its Financial Manager in January.

"I'm going to miss her expertise and willingness to work," says Budget Officer Linda Knipp. "I'll miss her help in times of crisis and her sense of humor."

Connie, a Durango native, began work on the San Juan NF in 1984, after a stint as a clerk typist on the White River NF.

She grew up in Carbondale, where she still has family, but much of her extended family lives in Durango. Her passion in life is her two nephews, aged 2 and 3.

"I'd take them with me if I could," she says.

She has been active in Project Linus, a group which knits and crochets home-made blankets for ill and needy children.

Most recently, the Durango chapter provided blankets to young victims of the September 11th terrorist acts, as well as to Afghan children. Connie also enjoys tatting and will miss her teacher, Randy Houtz.

Connie invites San Juan folks to stop by and visit if they're heading to Denver or Pueblo.

"You have to go right past the office when you drive through, so stop and have lunch," she says.

## SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS CENTER

### MEET THE LOVELY LINDA

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - When you talk with Linda Farnsworth, you can't help but feel excited about the future of cultural resources in Southwest Colorado.

Linda is the new USFS/BLM Heritage Program Leader, and she's one of those unusual agency employees who spent 24 years on one National Forest – the Coconino, near Flagstaff, Arizona.

"There are many similarities between this area and the Coconino," she says. "Both places have a high number of archeological sites and a diversity of cultures, and both face the same challenges—vandalism of sites and increasing public visitation."

Linda admits she faces a steep learning curve, both in learning local history and working with two agencies in a Service First organization. She says she appreciates the combined knowledge of the USFS and BLM archeologists she'll be working with.

"They're a great group," she says. "I also look forward to meeting the San Juan Mountains Association volunteer site stewards."

Linda grew up on the east coast of Florida near Lake Placid, but a visit to the West convinced her that the mountains would be her home.

At 21, she began studying archaeology at Northern Arizona University, from which she now holds a degree.

Linda enjoys gardening and jewelry making.



### ALLEN'S ALL RIGHT

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - Who says a degree in psychology and sociology isn't the perfect training for a fire specialist?

It's worked well for Allen Farnsworth, the other Farnsworth in the San Juan Public Lands Center.

As the new San Juan Public Lands Fire Education and Mitigation Specialist, Alan will be focusing on partnering with local fire departments and other agencies to educate communities about fire risks in the wildland urban interface.

"My first day on the job I was assigned a resource benefit wildfire near Dolores that burned 350 acres," he says. "It's a great job, and I enjoy working with the public."

Before arriving in Durango, Allen was with the Coconino NF in Arizona for 24 years, working most recently as its Prescribed Fire Specialist. Before attending Northern Arizona University, Alan bounced around a lot.

"From Rhode Island to Panama, I traveled the East Coast," he says.

Allen and his wife, Linda, live near Mancos with son, Jimmy, a sophomore at Mancos High. Alan enjoys fishing, hunting, hiking, skiing and photography.



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### SOUTHWEST PUBLIC LANDS PEOPLE

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## SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS CENTER

### MURPHY MOVES UP

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - Mike Murphy, San Juan Civil Engineering Technician, has been given a well-deserved promotion with expanded duties with the Capital Investment Design Team.

Currently, Mike is working on the re-design and upgrade of the Chris Park Group Campground.

"The facility will be a lot nicer as pavilions and other improvements are added," he says.

Mike has worked for 26 years off and on with the San Juan NF. He is a native Durangoan, a member of the third generation of the Murphy family in La Plata County.

Mike says he's a busy grandfather. His two grown children, Kurt and Lisa, have four grandchildren, with another on the way.

His son, Kurt, is a navy pilot stationed in Jacksonville, Florida, who is unsure of whether he'll be called upon for duty in Afghanistan.

Like a true engineer, Mike loves to build things. In his spare time, he builds furniture.

He's also an avid bowler, swings a mean golf club, and hunts turkey and pheasant. He's also been known to jet down to Baja, Mexico, on deep sea fishing trips.



### LYONS LANDS HERE

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - After spending a decade as a Wyoming State Highway Department engineer, Dan Lyons is now a civil engineer in the San Juan Public Lands Center.

This bachelor was born in Sheridan, Wyoming, where he has a large extended family. He received an engineering degree from the University of Wyoming in Laramie.

"There's a little more bureaucracy with the Forest Service, but a much wider range of activities and projects," Dan says comparing his former and current jobs. But the big challenge is real-estate costs.

"Rents are twice as high in Durango," he says.

Dan is a fly fisherman who prefers small, lesser-known streams. Even so, he's already checked out the scene on the San Juan River below Navajo Dam, New Mexico.

"I caught rainbow and brown trout, but I can hardly wait until spring when I can head into the backcountry," he says.

Dan will be working with upgrades and improvements of existing public facilities, including campgrounds, roads and water systems. He's designing a wastewater system for the Williams Creek Campground, as well as water systems for Chris Park and Cayton campgrounds.

This winter will find Dan out on cross-country skis scouting future fishing spots.

### ANOTHER MCCA MOVES IN

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - "I'm happy as a clam to be working full time with the Forest Service," says recently hired Civil Engineer Allen McCaw.

Prior to this, Allen spent a decade working as a seasonal for the San Juan Public Lands Center in recreation, and three and a half years as a private consultant.

Allen is a Durango native from a third-generation ranching family. The McCaw's hold a grazing permit on an allotment in the Hermosa area. Allen earned a degree in engineering from the University of Wyoming before settling on the family place.

"My family has a ranch out by the airport, and I grew up chasing cows," he says. "It takes a lot of time, but it's good, healthy work."

Both Allen and his wife, Meghan, a small animal vet at Durango Animal Hospital, are outdoor enthusiasts and avid horseback riders.

"I hunt, fish, chase cows – you name it," he says. "No children yet - I'm still waiting on that stork, and I hear he flies slow in the winter."

Allen is currently helping with the construction of the Durango Air Tanker Base, but hopes to work with bridge design and construction in the future. And yes, he's Ed McCaw's brother.



## SAN JUAN PUBLIC LANDS CENTER

### TERRY JOINS THE TEAM

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - If you're looking for a volleyball coach, look no further than the San Juan Public Lands Center. Terry Woodall is a fully qualified sports instructor working in Administrative Services.

Terry was an educator for 20 years, coaching at the University of Colorado in Pueblo before home-schooling her four children.

Three of her children, Scherla, Adam and Shannon, are grown and have gone on to successful careers. With the move to Durango, her youngest, Cheyenne, 16, is in public school for the first time.

"I loved teaching my children," says

this hard-working single mom. "I wouldn't trade that experience for anything."

Terry has embarked on a new career with the Forest Service. From payroll to property maintenance to personnel actions, grazing, fleet maintenance and travel – she's been busy learning the ropes.

"I like the people, and I love the variety," she says. "Every day is different."

Terry was born in Dallas, Texas, but grew up in Albuquerque. She has lived in Aztec for the last 12 years and actually enjoys the commute to Durango.



"It's such a pretty drive that I don't mind it at all," Terry says.



### WHERE FOR ART THOU, JULI ET?

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - Julieta Craik, the new Mailroom and File Office Manager in the San Juan Public Lands Center, assumed her new position this fall, after seven years at Mesa Verde as a visitor use assistant and interpreter.

"I dealt with many, many, many people there. Working here is a nice change - lots of fun, and I enjoy it," she says.

Juliette is originally from California, where she worked as an engineering

aide for an irrigation company. She also spent seven years as a Forest Service seasonal working in summer recreation and wilderness programs.

In addition to sorting the mail, she is managing employee housing, small purchases, records and all the other necessary tasks that keep everyone happy.

Julieta commutes from her home in Dolores, where she owns property and has two horses, who are her family. She enjoys trail riding and arena activities.

### A FLOWER BLOOMS IN THE SAN JUAN

By B.J. Boucher

DURANGO - Florida Hernandez is working in the San Juan Public Lands Center Telecommunications Department as a Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) assistant helping Neoma Quintana. Florida is certified in both Windows and Excel.

Florida studied journalism at New Mexico State University and wrote a column for the Denver Weekly while raising her four children. She moved to Durango to be near her sons, Joseph

and Roland, and her grandchildren.

"Do I ever have grandchildren!" she says. "I have 18, and 14 of them live right here in Durango."

Florida has lived most of her life in Silver City, New Mexico, and hopes to soon produce play she's written.

"It's called *Mother Maestas' Menagerie*, and it's about an old Spanish family living in the modern world," she says. She hopes the play will teach people about Spanish history in the Southwest.



## DOLORES PUBLIC LANDS OFFICE



### AN APPLE A DAY

By Toni Kelly

DOLORES – Mark Applequist, who has worked as a term employee in GIS, now holds a permanent position as GIS Technician in the Dolores Public Lands Office.

Originally from Louisiana, his family moved west to Arizona when he was 11. Mark received a degree in forestry from Northern Arizona University. After graduating, he was drafted and served in Vietnam.

Mark first worked for the Forest Service as a seasonal on the Gifford Pinchot NF where he did one of the first computer stand inventories. Over the years he worked as a schoolteacher, logger, heavy equipment operator, and carpenter/contractor.

Before his work in Dolores, Mark mapped timber on private lands and entered GIS information for AmeriCorps in Durango. The San Juan NF helped train him in exchange for his help with public lands mapping.

Mark and his wife, Sine Skaggs, principal for Mancos Elementary School, live in Mancos, where Mark has volunteered as a groomer for the Chicken Creek XC Ski Area for several years.

"It's been a great learning experience in community collaboration, and a lot of fun," he says.

Mark enjoys snowboarding, skiing, camping and hiking. His greatest passion is river rafting.

*(Toni Kelly is Dolores Public Lands Office Visitor Information Specialist.)*

### SIMPSON SAYS HI

By Toni Kelly

DOLORES - Recently hired as National Fire Plan Staff Support in Dolores, Brooke Simpson has taken on a bit more than just the fire portion for archaeology.

She's also helping cover duties for the currently unfilled Dolores Public Lands Office archaeology position.

Brooke has been able to handle the workload with style and grace, and also a big smile.

Most recently a Park Service employee, Brooke moved here from Wyoming where she worked as a Cultural Resource Archaeologist for the Big Horn Canyon National Recreation Area.

Her early job history includes contract work in Virginia for an engineering firm conducting excavations of colonial and historic sites.

She also worked at the West Archaeological Conservation Center as a seasonal for the Park Service in Tucson, Arizona.

Brooke holds an undergraduate degree in history and anthropology from Radford University, and a graduate degree in anthropology and archaeology from the University of Montana.

She calls San Diego home but was born in Mississippi. As an "army brat," she has lived all over the country.

Brook is engaged to Steve Brown, who is volunteering at Lone Mesa State Park while he looks for a permanent job. They plan to wed next summer.

Brooke enjoys, hiking, cross-stitching, yoga, and loves to bake.



### BRASHEAR'S HERE

By Toni Kelly

DOLORES - Rod Brashear has been working as the Dolores District Range Technician since this summer.

He's originally from Los Alamos, New Mexico, where his parents were research scientists at Los Alamos Lab.

Rod most recently worked for the Natural Resource Conservation Service, but he wasn't always a "range type," he says.

He started his early adult life as a mechanic on the east slope after attending a technical college in Denver.

He and his wife, Marcella, live in the Red Mesa area and commute in opposite directions. She works in Farmington at the City Finance Office.

Rod is proud of Marcella, who was able to pass the Certified Public Accountant boards her first try, while raising two small boys, Benjamin, now 19, and Joshua, now 14.

Rod holds a degree in environmental biology with a minor in chemistry from Fort Lewis College. He has also done contract work for the BLM in the Farmington area, including neo-tropical bird surveys, waterfowl surveys, soil surveys and tree planting in riparian habitats.

Rod says he may eventually look into the Master's program at Colorado University, but he loves the variety of work his new job offers, and he and his wife love the area. Rod enjoys fishing, hiking, target shooting, and hunting.



## DOLORES PUBLIC LANDS OFFICE

### TUCKER TAKES OFF FOR DURANGO

By Toni Kelly

**DOLORES** - Mark Tucker will soon be leaving the Dolores Public Lands Office for the San Juan Public Lands Center. He's been balancing the duties of his new position as USFS/BLM Range Program Leader with his Range Conservationist position since fall. He'll move his office to Durango in January.

Mark moved to Dolores in 1985 from the Medicine Bow NF where he spent two years on the Laramie Peak Ranger District and three years on the Thunder Basin National Grassland. He also worked on the Sequoia NF as a seasonal.

After serving two years in the Marine Corps, Mark graduated from Humboldt State University in northern California with a degree in range management and a minor in soil science.

One of his more noted accomplishments on the Dolores District has been

the overall increased awareness of noxious weeds. Over the years he has negotiated many cooperative agreements with counties and other agencies.

Mark also served special details as Monticello District Ranger on the Manti-La Sal NF and Acting Range Staff for the combined San Juan/Rio Grande NFs.

Noted challenges in his career as a range con have included ever-changing priorities, such as landscape management, permit reissuance, INFRA (which he describes as "cruel and unusual punishment"), and merging with the BLM through Service First, to list a few.

A fourth-generation Californian, Mark grew up on a small ranch in Livermore with two other siblings. He has fond memories of hearing stories about a grandfather who was once a brand inspector out of Sacramento. "Back then



he used to ride out of town on horseback," reflected Mark.

Mark's hobbies include golf, reading, hiking, and horsebackin' (perhaps soon to be seen riding east out of Dolores; headed towards Durango and the next sunrise).

### REIDINGER RIDES OFF INTO THE SUNSET

By Toni Kelly

**DOLORES** - John Reidinger is moving on to higher pay and hopefully greener pastures as he takes a new position as Jicarilla Ranger District Forester on the Carson NF, where he'll be in charge of special uses, minerals, oil and gas.

His duty station will be in Bloomfield, New Mexico, and his wife, Noella, is looking for a nursing position in Farmington. They expect to live in the Aztec area.

John says he leaves with mixed feelings. On the one hand, he's looking forward to learning new country and the challenge of a new job, "and making my wife happy." On the other hand, he feels he's leaving behind a whole lot.

"Southwest Colorado is one of the greatest places in the world," John says. "I hope people take care of it."

John is a native Arizonian from Bisbee. He holds a degree in forestry from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. His first job with the Forest Service was on the Coronado NF, where he worked as a Forestry Tech in fire prevention and law enforcement.

His career includes work on the San Juan (since 1981), Coronado, Apache-Sitgreaves, Kaibab and Gila NFs.

The Reidingers' pride and joy is their son, Christopher, who is graduating from the Colorado School of Mines this winter with an engineering degree.

Other joys in John's life include hunting, fishing, and photography.

*(Toni Kelly is the Dolores Public Lands Office Visitor Information Specialist.)*



## PAGOSA RANGER DISTRICT/FIELD OFFICE

### PAGOSA ROPES HIM IN

By B.J. Boucher

PAGOSA SPRINGS - The Pagosa Ranger District/Field Office has hired a new cartographer and GIS specialist.

Mark Roper is a graduate of Colorado State University. Most recently, he was in GIS on the Pike/San Isabel NF, where he began working in 1994.

Mark has discovered and photographed almost 200 historic railroad depots and rail lines in Colorado.

"Some are now converted into homes; others are town halls; others remain in their original use," he says.

Mark, who is single, has also traveled across the U.S. and Canada in search of old railroads. He's pleased to be settling in Pagosa Springs between two narrow-gauge lines that still operate.

He plans to set up a model railroad in his new home, something he has done before.

"I've ridden both the Durango-Silverton and the Chama lines several times," Mark says. "I particularly like the Chama trip because you can see so much as you ride along."

Mark's father was with the Soil Conservation District for 30 years, and he has a cousin who is also with the Forest Service.

This Colorado native grew up in Pueblo, and his parents are retired in Canon City.



### HOW DO YOU DO, LA DUE

By Phyllis Decker

PAGOSA SPRINGS - Christie LaDue was recently hired as Timber Crew Supervisor for the Pagosa and Columbine Ranger District/Field Offices. Working out of Pagosa Springs, she'll be supervising timber cruising crews.

"I enjoy cruising timber, working with maps and photos, and the opportunity to train and motivate crew members," Christie says.

A Denver native, Christie holds a degree in natural resource management from Colorado State University. She has worked on Pagosa timber-marking crews summers since 1998. She has also volunteered for Ros Wu in winter preparing fire-scar samples.

When Christie was 10, her family visited a national park in Canada and enjoyed a ranger-guided interpretive walk.

That's when she realized one could make a career of working in the woods. She says she's attained a life goal by landing her current job.

Christie likes the energy of the local community, and the mountains, seasons and recreational opportunities of her new home.

She enjoys hiking, snowboarding, backcountry skiing, hunting and fly fishing.

*(Phyllis Decker is the Pagosa Ranger District/Field Office Visitor Information Specialist.)*



### IT'S A TRIPLE DECKER!

By Phyllis Decker

PAGOSA SPRINGS - Eric Decker has been working in the Pagosa Office as Civil Engineering Technician since this fall.

Originally from upstate New York, he has already had one career with the U.S. Air Force and a second in the private sector. Now he's looking forward to new opportunities with the Forest Service.

Eric is stationed in Pagosa but serves the entire San Juan. He works with facilities and fleet management and road, trail, bridge, and dam projects.

Eric holds a degree in industrial technology from Southern Illinois University. He has trained and worked in engineering in California, Florida, Texas, Virginia, Wyoming, Korea, Canada and South America.

He retired from the Air Force in Cheyenne, Wyoming, where he worked in the private sector and most recently in Lewistown, Montana.

Eric enjoys a challenge and likes to travel and explore. The Pagosa area fits in with his many hobbies, which include downhill and cross-country skiing, archery hunting, and raising and training horses and mules.

And he doesn't just have the t-shirt; he actually rides a Harley. He's learning to speak Spanish, play fiddle and telemark ski.

*(Eric is no relation to Phyllis and Ron Decker, but hey, it's still just one big family over there in Pagosa.)*





## COLUMBINE RANGER DISTRICT/FIELD OFFICE

### THE PERILS OF PAULINE



By B.J. Boucher  
DURANGO - Pauline Ellis, new Columbine District Ranger/Field Office Manager, is burning up the road between the Bayfield and Durango offices.

"We have a wide variety of opportunities and challenges," she responds, "and I look forward to working with them."

She comes to the San Juan from the Coconino and Kaibab NFs, where she worked for the last decade in a shared Engineering Staff position for the Coconino and Kaibab NFs.

"That helped me gain a Service First perspective, which helps as I join the San Juan Public Lands staff," she remarks.

In 1996, she was detailed to the Washington Office where she worked in recreation. She returned to Flagstaff in 1998 as Acting Recreation and Lands Staff.

Pauline holds a civil engineering degree from the University of California at Irvine. Her Forest Service career spans 21 years.

"I've always had a feel for the outdoors," Pauline says regarding her choice of careers.

Pauline and her husband, Fred, have a perky four-year-old daughter, Brooke, who is already happily settled into school. Meanwhile, Fred is getting the family settled into an apartment while Pauline "burns the rubber" traveling between Columbine offices. Fred holds a criminal justice degree and has worked in law enforcement for many years, but he's also worked as a seasonal firefighter.

"I feel so fortunate to be able to live here," she says. "We had visited before to backpack in the mountains and have always loved this part of the country."

### HE'S A ROWDY FELLA

By B.J. Boucher  
BAYFIELD - His full name is Wayne Frances 'Rowdy' Wood, Jr., but you can just call him Rowdy. As the new Range Conservationist on the Columbine Ranger District/Field Office, he's returned to his childhood stomping grounds.

Although his father retired from the San Juan NF as a range conservationist, and Rowdy graduated from high school in Pagosa Springs, Rowdy says it's a whole new world now in Southwest Colorado.

"It's like I never lived here before," he says. "The traffic, paved streets in Pagosa, the number of people, development—it's a changed world."

Rowdy joined the staff of the Columbine Ranger District/Field Office this fall after 18 years of service on seven other NFs.

He holds a degree in range ecology and wildlife from Colorado State University. Most recently, he was with the range staff of the Medicine Bow/Routt NF. His wife Cindy, is still there until something opens up for her in this neck of the woods. Until she can join him, Rowdy has moved back onto the family ranch in Tiffany.

In spring, he'll be managing four new permanent and four seasonal range staff working on noxious weeds, restoration of disturbed ecosystems and administration of grazing permits.

Rowdy describes himself as a three-season sportsman – cross-country skiing in winter, horseback riding and fishing in summer, and hunting in fall.

"I guess I need a spring hobby," he says.

You'll find Rowdy on horseback checking out the range as soon as the snow permits.



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## ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER

### HOLLI S HEADS FOR THE HILLS

By Michael J. Williams

**DOLORES** - After 34 years with the BLM, Mark Hollis, maintenance mechanic at the Anasazi Heritage Center, retired this fall. His departure leaves coworkers wondering how to replace someone who could fix or build anything, anytime, with a smile on his face.

Mark was known for his unwavering sense of humor through good times and bad. He could weld a snowplow, fix a VCR, or struggle knee-deep in mud with a leaking water line. Mark also worked as Safety Officer and managed the Combined Federal Campaign for United Way.

Mark is the father of four children, the oldest of which is 31. His adopted youngest daughter, Deanna, "a little blue-eyed darling whom I adore," he says, is barely four. (See photo to right.)

He and his wife, Jan, have moved to Carlsbad, New Mexico, where he served as BLM Chief of the Realty and Minerals staff in the 1980s, and where he has family. He plans to spend his time fishing, traveling, and in church-related vol-

unteer activities.

Born on a family farm in eastern Colorado, Mark's early experiences included "digging ditches, cutting firewood, custom wheat harvesting, lineman for the local electric company, sawmill hand, logging, irrigation, and every other odd job in the world."

Mark served as Chief of the Multi-Resources staff at the San Juan Field Office in Durango prior to moving to the Anasazi Heritage Center in 1995.

His BLM career included positions in Wyoming, Oregon, Arizona, and New Mexico. Among his roles were Natural Resource Specialist, Range Conservation Technician, Forester, Environmental Coordinator, and Surface Reclamation Specialist. Mark leaves behind BLM friends from Yuma to Baker City.

"I have always considered the BLM to be my extended family, and hope to continue to enjoy that friendship."

*(Michael J. Williams is the Anasazi Heritage Center Museum Specialist.)*



### ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER

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## SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION



### LARMORE TAKES OVER FROM WISE

By Kathe Hayes

**DURANGO** - Sean Larmore is the new Program Archaeologist for the SJMA Cultural Site Stewardship Program. He replaces Amy Wise, who now works for Kristie Arrington as a BLM GIS archeologist for fire.

Sean comes from the University of Denver with a pending Master's degree in archaeology. He's not new to Durango, having received his undergraduate degree from Fort Lewis College.

"I have always wanted to come back to the Southwest, and especially the Durango area," he says.

Most recently, Sean was field director for a long-term project in Rocky Mountain National Park, which involved surveying for historic and prehistoric cultural sites. He has also worked in culture resource management in Wyoming, Colorado, and Utah with private environmental companies.

Sean plans to expand the program's public outreach to Fort Lewis College and area Tribes. He also plans to integrate volunteer site-stewardship training with the State Historical Preservation Office's certification program.

Sean and his fiancée, Kelli, are excited to have left the big city for a return to small-town living.

*(Kathe Hayes is the SJMA Volunteer Coordinator.)*

### SJMA

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## LITTLE KNOWN FACTS QUIZ

### HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW YOUR FELLOW EMPLOYEES?

**HOW TO ENTER:** Send your answers in an email message to [abond@fs.fed.us](mailto:abond@fs.fed.us) no later than Monday, Jan. 14, 2002. Include the numbers that correspond to the questions to identify your answers.

**PRIZES:** The 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive \$20, \$15, & \$10 gift certificates, respectively, to the San Juan Mountains Association Bookstore.

**THE RULES:** If your name is an answer, do not tell anyone, and if someone asks you, do not say. However, employees may otherwise discuss the quiz openly to ascertain the answers. Questions cover USFS and BLM employees who work on our unit, unless otherwise stated. No one's name is the answer to more than one question per quiz.



Sponsored by the  
San Juan Mountains  
Association

1. Who has worked for the San Juan National Forest or BLM Field Office for the longest amount of time?
2. Who was sent home from the hospital with the name, "Baby A," when he/she was born in a set of twins?
3. Whose two daughters were both valedictorians of their graduating high school classes?
4. Who was a collegiate wrestler and speaks Japanese?
5. Which two employees shot a hole-in-one on the same hole at different times at Hillcrest Golf Course this year?
6. Who has family on the first South Pacific island nation to establish national parks and reserves?
7. Who has attended more than 30 Grateful Dead concerts and once spent a week in the hospital after a rattlesnake bite?
8. Who rebuilds classic cars for both pleasure and profit?
9. Who holds an art degree and, on his first day as a Forest Service employee, had to wrestle the district ranger to see who was the toughest?
10. Whose brother helped designate the Colorado River corridor in Grand Canyon National Park as Wilderness?
11. Who worked as a payroll clerk in the Navy?
12. Who worked as a postal worker in Philadelphia?
13. Who has competed in sanctioned whistling contests?
14. Who was born in Oklahoma and is the son of a preacher?
15. Who detonated explosives in southern India while working for the Peace Corps?
16. Who was born in Palau, Micronesia?
17. Who worked as a bank teller in Durango?
18. Who used to perform on horseback with the Westernairs Drill Team at the National Western Stock Show in Denver?
19. Who used to groom and train racehorses and sew jockey uniforms?
20. Who used to wash cars for Budget Rent-A-Car?
21. Whose daughter trains dogs for sheep-herding competitions?
22. Who sings in a barbershop quartet?
23. Who has climbed nine peaks over 15,000 feet on three continents?
24. Who was a teenaged spelunker in West Virginia?
25. Who can play five different types of stringed instruments?



**EXTRA CREDIT:** Whose grandfather and uncle are shown in this photo taken in a Northern California timber camp in the 1930s?

If you have little known facts about yourself or your fellow employees (or interesting photos) for use in future *Little Known Facts* quizzes, contact the Public Affairs Office!



# SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS ASSOCIATION



## HELPING HUNTERS

By Alan Peterson

DURANGO - For the second year, hunters were welcomed with a one-stop shop of information, maps, licenses, and Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Registrations at the Colorado Division of Wildlife Museum.

The booths were sponsored by a partnership of the Colorado Division of Wildlife, San Juan Public Lands Center and San Juan Mountains Association (SJMA). Twenty volunteers staffed the booth, including Public Land Ambassadors, Wilderness Information Specialists, Ghost Riders, and agency and SJMA staff.

*Leave No Trace* bandanas were sold at the booth. Proceeds benefited the Hunter Dumpster Program, which offered trash receptacles at strategic locations for hunters to drop off garbage.

"We sold more maps, OHV registrations and products during the second and third hunting seasons this year than we ever have," says Mark Winkworth, SJMA Visitor Information Specialist, pictured at right helping out a hunter).

"The hunters seemed pleased that we were all working together to meet their needs at one location," Mark says.

Suggested changes or improvements for next year include extending the booth hours and offering information at other locations. Thanks to all who donated time and energy towards the booths!

*(Alan Peterson is an SJMA Visitor Information Specialist at the San Juan Public Lands Center.)*



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